

Town Officials

Big Stone Gap has the best looking, the smartest and the most efficient bunch of town officials in the Commonwealth. We make this remarkable statement with absolute confidence because we know that not one of the gentlemen in question will have the nerve to deny it.

His Honor, the Mayor, Winfield Scott Rose, to be exact, is not a native of Virginia, having come to the Gap from Ohio in the early days of the town, but he liked the Gap so much that he never wanted to leave, and we liked him so much that we let him be Postmaster until he got tired of the job, then we handed the mayorship over to him, and if he has ever had a suspicion that it was a lemon instead of an honor we handed him he hasn't "let on".

B. C. Ferguson, the Recorder, is a nice old bachelor from the eastern part of the state. Why he remains in a state of single cussedness, with so many attractive girls in the Gap, we never have been able to figure out.

Marshall Belcher has so long been a name to conjure with it is not necessary to state that nobody nor nothing has ever scared him yet, and so long as he is Sergeant of Big Stone Gap, the most daring of evil-doers will not attempt to put anything over on Marshall Belcher and hope to live through the experience.

Pat Kennedy, Town Treasurer, and Ike Taylor, Fire Chief, have been raised right up from their tender youth in Big Stone Gap. As the Town always has loads of surplus cash in the treasury, and no outstanding indebtedness, Mr. Kennedy's duties are very light, and he spends most of his time telling his friends how smart his infant daughter is for three months. Mr. Taylor has a somewhat harder job, for people are so inconsiderate about having fires in the middle of the coldest night, or just any old time, without once consulting Mr. Taylor's convenience.

The gentlemen of the Council are too well known to need any eulogy, even in the booster edition of the town paper. They are all old citizens, tried and true, with the best interests of the town always at heart. They answer to the following roll-call: L. O. Pettit, H. E. Fox, W. T. Goodloe, S. M. Shelton, P. H. Barron, L. E. Jessee.

Associated Charities

Realizing fully that promiscuous giving alike to the worthy and unworthy with no means of knowing for a certainty when cases were really needy was as bad as no giving at all, and that some sort of organized effort for systematic charitable work was imperative, an earnest band of church people, inspired by the Lloyds and Mrs. J. F. Bullitt, and a few others, met in Christ Church several years ago and formed a society henceforth known—and worthily known—as the Associated Charities. This organization is supported by private subscriptions from the townspeople and voluntary con-

tributions of food, coal, clothing, money, etc., from anyone interested in philanthropic work. The present officers are Mrs. C. C. Cochran, President; Mrs. M. R. McCorkle, Secretary; J. M. Hodge, Treasurer.

Masonic Fraternity.

The Masonic Fraternity is and always has been in a flourishing condition at this place. Peace and harmony prevail, and every moral and social virtue unite and cement them.

The Blue Lodge was organized in 1889 in what was then known as Imboden Cottage with W. H. Sather as W. M.; G. E. Dutton, S. W.; C. T. Duncan, J. W.; J. C. Maynor, S. D.; J. H. Duff, J. D.; C. D. Kunkel, Treasurer; W. S. Mathews, Secretary; and I. T. Taylor, Tiler. It was chartered under the name of Big Stone Gap Lodge No. 298 A. F. & A. M., and its first lodge room was in the third story of the Skeen Short building on Shawnee Avenue. The following is the list of present officers of the Blue Lodge: G. L. Taylor, Worshipful Master; A. D. Owens, Senior Warden; H. W. Gilliam, Junior Warden; R. P. Barron, Treasurer; J. H. Mathews, Secretary; J. A. Brown, S. D.; N. D. Pressley, J. D.; W. B. Kilbourne, Tiler. Number of members in this lodge, 101.

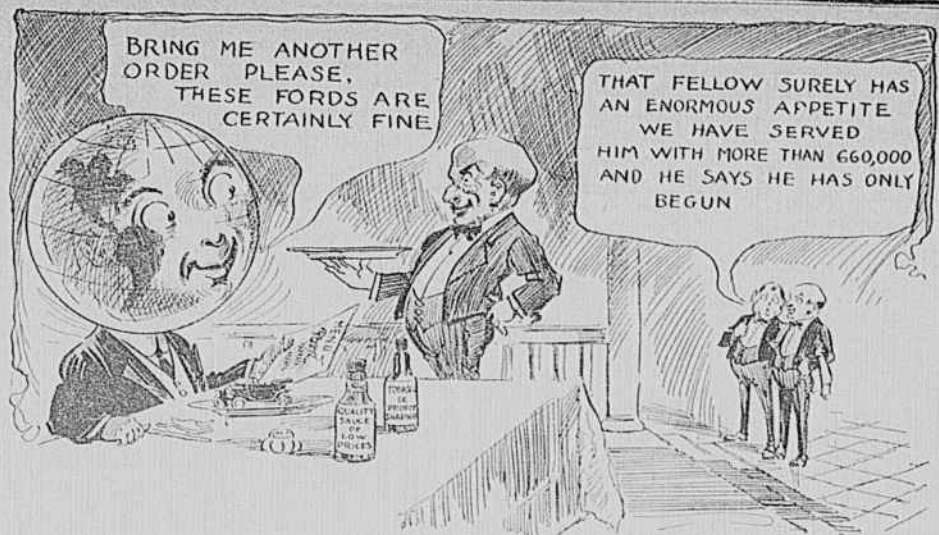
The Royal Arch Chapter was organized in 1891—most of the masons were made royal arch masons by a team from E. H. Gill Chapter, of Bristol. This team was headed by Past Grand High Priest John P. Steffner and Companions Smith, Parlette, Ferguson, Brewer and others accompanying him. This chapter was chartered as Stevenson R. A. Chapter No. 19, with J. P. Moore as High Priest. The following is a list of the officers as reported at the last convocation of the Grand Chapter: R. P. Barron, High Priest; H. W. Gilliam, King; H. H. Slomp, Scribe; A. D. Owens, Treasurer; J. H. Mathews, Secretary; W. S. Mathews, Past Grand High Priest. Total number of companions, 116.

The present Lodge Room occupies the entire third floor of the Willis Building on Wood Avenue, which was especially designed and fitted up for this purpose when the building was erected.

Militia

Company H, Second Regiment of Virginia Volunteers is the official designation of our local company of militia, which is in excellent shape at present to start for Mexico at an hour's notice, and kill every greaser in sight.

J. F. Bullitt is Captain, Dr. W. G. Painter, 1st Lieutenant, and G. G. McFerran, 2nd Lieutenant. These are the commissioned officers. The company now numbers sixty eight and drills regularly every Friday night. Increased interest has been shown in these weekly drills and in target practice recently, and an enthusiastic lot of patriotic citizens will doubtless entrain in July for the annual encampment at Chick



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Mineral Motor Company

Big Stone Gap, Va.

amanga, where not only the Virginia troops, but also those of Tennessee and possibly one or two other states, will be in camp.

School Board

On our School Board this year we have three representative citizens, one of whom is a popular physician, one a well known legislator and the other a prominent business man, so patrons of the schools, either white or colored, are sure of having any complaint handled by competent authorities and settled satisfactorily and speedily. The official line-up is as follows: C. S. Carter, Chairman; J. W. Chalkley, Clerk, and Dr. J. A. Gilmer.

Our Band.

The Gap now has a first class Band for the first time in many years, under the capable leadership of one of our most experienced local directors, S. T. Witt. High class music is played and the recent concerts given by the Band have been highly complimented and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. The Band now has about fifteen pieces and new uniforms of spotless duck have been ordered for the boys. We are proud of our Band, as every good citizen should be, and we are glad to have this opportunity to boost it.

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\$2.00 per week saved and placed at 3 per cent interest in 5 years, amounts to \$560.70.

\$5.00 per week saved and placed at 3 per cent interest in 5 years, amounts to \$1401.74.

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Big Stone Gap, Va.

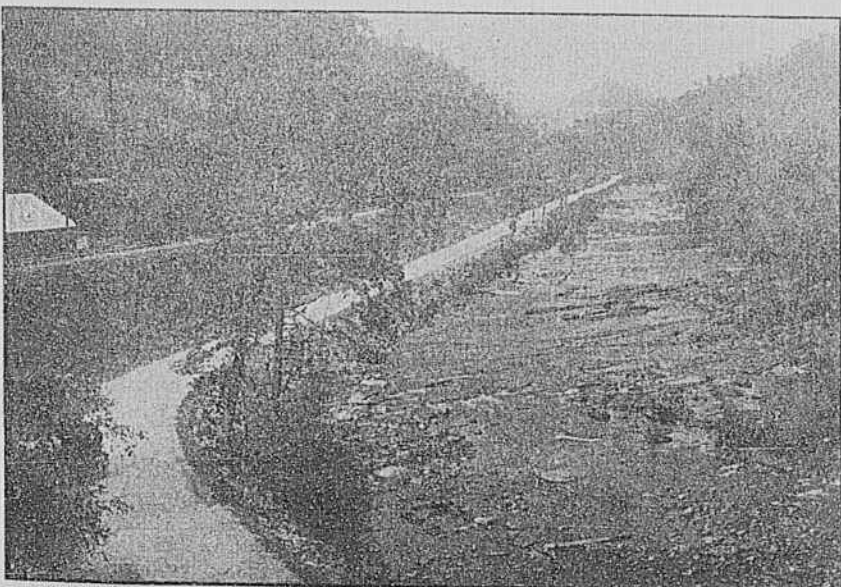
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Big Stone Gap, Virginia.



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